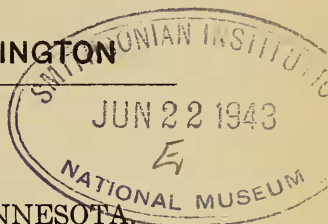


PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON



A NEW RED SQUIRREL FROM MINNESOTA.

BY ARTHUR H. HOWELL.

This description of a previously unrecognized subspecies of red squirrel was found among the papers of the late Arthur H. Howell. It was prepared by him in connection with his revision of the red squirrels of North America, which was left uncompleted by his untimely death.—Viola S. Schantz.

*Tamiasciurus hudsonicus murii*, new subspecies

RED RIVER CHICKAREE.

*Type*.—Collected at Moorhead, Minnesota, February 11, 1918, by O. J. Murie; adult male, skin and skull, No. 234039, U. S. National Museum (Biological Survey collection); original number 1174 (21595X).

*Range*.—The Red River Valley, Minnesota and North Dakota, north in southern Manitoba to Aweme.

*External characters*.—Hind foot larger than in *loquax*; upper parts in winter pelage paler, the red of a paler shade, and sides paler and more grayish (less buffy); ear tufts more brownish (less red); under parts with more vermiculation. In summer pelage very similar to *loquax*, but red of tail averaging paler. Compared with *pallescens*: Upper parts in winter much brighter red—the red color concentrated in the middle line. Compared with *hudsonicus*: Upper parts in winter paler, the red concentrated in the middle line; under parts with less vermiculation; tail darker red and with darker buffy edgings. In summer pelage, upper parts more ochraceous (less olivaceous); front legs a deeper shade of ochraceous buff; tail darker and more reddish above.

*Cranial characters*.—Skull slightly smaller than that of *hudsonicus*, and relatively narrower across zygomata; slightly larger than that of *loquax*; similar in size to that of *pallescens*.

*Color*.—*Winter pelage* (type): Median portion of upper parts, from crown to rump, between ochraceous tawny and tawny, shaded on each side of middle line with light ochraceous buff; sides of head and body smoke gray; feet gray, slightly darker than sides; front of face ochraceous buff, mixed with dusky; eye ring dull white; tail above, light tawny,

bordered with black and tipped with warm buff; tail beneath, ochraceous buff mixed with gray; under parts white. *Summer pelage*: Upper parts clay color or ochraceous tawny; lightly mixed with black; front legs and feet ochraceous tawny; hind feet ochraceous buff; tail above, tawny, bordered with black and tipped with ochraceous buff; under parts white.

*Measurements*.—Average of 9 adults (7 males, 2 females) from type locality: Total length, 325 (314–344); tail vertebrae, 130.8 (119–141); hind foot, 50.2 (48–52). *Skull*: Average of 8 adults (7 males, 1 female) from same locality: Greatest length, 47.1 (46–48.3); zygomatic breadth, 26.6 (25.5–27.5); cranial breadth, 20.3 (19.9–21.1); interorbital breadth, 14.1 (13.3–14.7); least postorbital breadth, 14.4 (13.7–15.7); length of nasals, 14 (13–15.6); maxillary tooth row, 8 (7.5–.4).

*Remarks*.—In color, this race most resembles *loquax*, but it is distinctly paler and also larger. It is an intermediate form, connecting *loquax* with *pallescens* of the Souris River region.

*Specimens examined*.—Total number, 61, from localities as follows: Manitoba: Aweme, 17<sup>1,2</sup>; Carberry, 3; Red River, 2.

Minnesota: Moorhead, 12<sup>3</sup>.

North Dakota: Grafton, 12; Grand Forks, 3; Larimore, 1; Lisbon, 1; Manvel, 1; Portland, 3; Wahpeton, 3; Walhalla, 3.

*United States Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D. C.*

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<sup>1</sup> Stuart Criddle collection.

<sup>2</sup> Royal Ontario Mus. Zool.

<sup>3</sup> Nine in collection Carnegie Mus.